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February 23, 1979

Dear Mr. Brooks:

Thank you for your letter of February 1 on behalf of Mr. Frank Indge concerning his interest in various aspects of the recent tragedy involving the People's Temple.

As regards the involvement of Congressman Ryan, Mr. Ryan went to Jonestown out of personal concern over the allegations of aberrant behavior among the members of the People's Temple. His arrival seems to have served as a catalyst for the tragic sequence of events which followed.

Although we appreciate his interest and concern, we regret that we cannot be as responsive as we would like to Mr. Indge's other questions, as they do not fall within the domain of this Department. The substantial coverage by the media to the events at Jonestown, the People's Temple, and its leaders, may prove a useful source of information to him.

Please do not hesitate to call on us whenever you believe we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

PA/PC/CM:HHeinshis/mb
X24933 2-16-79

H# 020-1964

H: ETaylor

ET/GW

GW

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Correspondence returned.

The Honorable
Jack Brooks,
House of Representatives

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY DMartin DATE 2/27/81

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